

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please cancel claim 1 and new claims 34 to 64 as indicated in the listing of claims below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

Claim 34 (new): A rotor having a radius and comprising:

a rotor head; and

at least two rotor blades connectable to the rotor head, each rotor blade including a blade neck having a blade-connector region including two auxiliary flapping hinges spaced apart from one another in a radial longitudinal direction of the rotor blade and a flexurally elastic blade-neck region forming a virtual flapping hinge disposed substantially between the two auxiliary flapping hinges, the virtual flapping hinge being deformable in a flexurally elastic and curved fashion in response to a flapping motion,

wherein the blade-connector region includes at least one blade-connector arm and wherein respective blade-connector arms of the at least two rotor blades are joined to each other and overlap each other at a subregion, and wherein one of the auxiliary flapping hinges is disposed at the subregion.

Claim 35 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, further comprising a further flexurally elastic blade-neck region adjacent to and radially outward from the radially outer of the two auxiliary flapping hinges.

Claim 36 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 35, wherein the rotor is a hingeless rotor and wherein the further flexurally elastic blade-neck region forms a virtual lead-lag hinge.

{W:\20800\0204924us0\00888850.DOC /XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX }

Claim 37 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the rotor is a bearingless and hingeless rotor further comprising a virtual lead-lag hinge, and a torsionally flexible blade neck for bearingless blade angle adjustment.

Claim 38 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein a flapping hinge distance of the rotor is greater than or equal to zero.

Claim 39 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein a flapping hinge distance of the rotor is less than zero.

Claim 40 (new): The rotor as recited claim 34, wherein the virtual flapping hinge is disposed in a region of the blade neck between the two auxiliary flapping hinges.

**Claim 41 (new):** The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the two auxiliary flapping hinges simultaneously form two auxiliary lead-lag hinges, spaced apart from one another in a radial direction of the rotor blade, and wherein the rotor further comprises a virtual lead-lag hinge disposed between the two auxiliary lead-lag hinges and wherein the blade neck is deformable in flexurally elastic and curved fashion in response to a lead-lag motion of the rotor blade.

Claim 42 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 41, wherein the virtual lead-lag hinge is embodied in lead-lag-stiff fashion.

Claim 43 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein at least one of the auxiliary flapping hinges includes a swivel joint.

Claim 44 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein at least one of the auxiliary flapping hinges is formed by a flexurally elastic portion of the blade neck.

Claim 45 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein at least one of the auxiliary flapping hinges is formed by a support device supporting the blade neck in the region of the auxiliary flapping hinge.

Claim 46 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the at least two rotor blades include common auxiliary flapping hinges disposed in a common blade-neck joining region.

Claim 47 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the at least two rotor blades each lie at an offset from one another of approximately 180 degrees with reference to the rotor disc and form a rotor blade pair,

wherein the rotor blade pair includes two common auxiliary flapping hinges and one common virtual flapping hinge.

Claim 48 (new): The rotor as recited in one claim 34, wherein the blade-connector region of the blade neck of a respective rotor blade is embodied in the form of a single blade-connector arm, the single blade-connector arm extends alongside an axis of the rotor axis and past it, and is joined to an intermediate portion of a respectively adjacent, similarly configured rotor blade.

Claim 49 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the blade-connector region of the blade neck, is embodied in the form of a blade-connector fork having at least two blade-connector arms discharging centrifugal-force.

Claim 50 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, and axis of the rotor extends between the at least two blade-connector arms.

Claim 51 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, the at least one blade-connector arm includes at least two blade-connector arms, at least one of which includes an arm end, embodied as a fork terminal, that engages in the region of one of the two auxiliary flapping hinges and is joined to a blade-connector arm region of a blade-connector arm of a respective other rotor blade.

{ W:\20800\0204924us0\00888850.DOC 11/11/06 11:11:11 AM }

Claim 52 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the at least one blade-connector arm is divided into at least two blade-connector arm segments located one above another in a direction of a rotor axis.

Claim 53 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the at least one blade-connector arms includes a fork having at least two blade-connector arms and wherein the rotor blades and at least one subregion receives centrifugal forces of the respective other rotor blade.

Claim 54 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 53, wherein the blade-connector arms of the rotor blades that are joined to one another via their blade-connector forks overlap at least in subregions.

Claim 55 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 53, wherein the at least two blade-connector arms extend in different planes.

Claim 56 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 53, wherein the blade-connector arms are strip- or plate-shaped.

Claim 57 (new): The rotor as recited in one claim 34, wherein the at least one rotor blade is nonrotatably joined in the region of the two auxiliary flapping hinges, via a torque-transmission element, to a rotor mast.

Claim 58 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 57, wherein the torque-transmission element engages the rotor blades at the subregion at a location at which least one of the auxiliary flapping hinges is located.

**Claim 59 (new):** The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the torque-transmission element is flexurally elastic in a flapping direction of the at least one rotor blade.

{W:\20800\0204924us0\00888850.DOC 11/12/2001 11:11:11 AM}

Claim 60 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the rotor blade has in the blade-connector region at least two centrifugal-force-discharge elements, spaced apart from one another in the longitudinal direction or centrifugal-force direction, of which at least one receives, during continuous operation of the rotor, the centrifugal forces occurring at the rotor blade.

Claim 61 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein at least a portion of one of the two auxiliary flapping hinges is configured as a centrifugal-force-discharge element.

Claim 62 (new): The rotor as recited in claim 34, wherein the rotor blades are joined to one another in the region of their auxiliary flapping hinges, and at least a portion of one respective auxiliary flapping hinge embodied as a centrifugal-force-discharge element for at least one respective other rotor blade.

Claim 63 (new): A rotorcraft having at least one rotor as recited in claim 34.

Claim 64 (new): The rotorcraft as recited in claim 63, wherein the rotorcraft includes at least one of a helicopter and a tiltrotor helicopter.